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Fairchild Space Company Germantown, Maryland 20874-1181 (301) 428-6000

June 30, 1983 83:JN:076

Allen H. Watkins
Chief, EROS Data Center
United States Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
EROS Data Center
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57198

Ref: Eighth William T. Pecora Memorial Symposium

Dear Mr. Watkins,

I would be delighted to present a paper on the Leasecraft system at the 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 session on Thursday, October 6, 1983 -- Future Operational Satellites: Plans and Status. The title of my talk will be "Fairchild Leasecraft System, Complete Service for Commercial and Government Users in Space". The abstract is attached.

I am looking forward to the Symposium.

Sincerely,

John E. Naugle Er. Director

Leasecraft Program

JEN/cb Encl.

DRAFT ABSTRACT

FAIRCHILD-LEASECRAFT SYSTEM PROVIDING COMPLETE SERVICE FOR COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENT USERS IN SPACE

Under a Joint Endeavor Agreement with NASA, Fairchild will design, finance, build, and begin operating in 1987 permanent, mobile, shuttle-serviced space platforms known as Leasecraft. Fairchild will provide services (space, power, communications, data handling and orientation) from a platform to government or commercial users of space. Customers will pay for the services as they are provided.

The Leasecraft platform is based on the NASA Multi-Mission Modular Spacecraft (MMS) technology, and uses the standard modules developed in that program. Its hydrazine propulsion system enables the platform to move back and forth between the shuttle parking orbit and the orbits required by the missions. Most of the Leasecrafts will be placed in two standard orbits, a 255.6 n.mi, 28.5 degree orbit from Cape Canaveral and a 98 degree sunsychronous orbit from Vandenberg. All elements of the Leasecraft are replaceable in space, enabling the platform to remain permanently in space.

In addition to developing and operating the Leasecraft, Fairchild will provide service to commercial users of space who are not familiar with space systems. Fairchild will advise prospective users of space how to design and develop their hardware to be compatible with Lease III and the shuttle; arrange with NASA for transportation to and from space; operate their equipment while in orbit, and return their data or product to them.

A technical description of Leasecraft will be provided together with its status and the process by which a customer arranges to use the services of a Leasecraft platform. Its particular value to earth observations will be presented.